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FM AMEMBASSY RIODEJANEIRO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUASTP/AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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UNCLAS ACTION DEPT 1326 INFO TAIPEI FOUR HONGKONG TWO FROM  
RIO TWENTYSECOND

1. THE MILITARY TRIAL OF THE NINE CHICOM CITIZENS HERE  
OSTENSIBLY AS MEMBERS OF A TRADE MISSION AND NINE BRAZILIAN  
CITIZENS ACCUSED OF VIOLATING THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW  
(ESPIONAGE AND SUBVERSION) ENDED AT 6:15 A.M. DECEMBER 22  
AFTER 16 HOURS OF CONTINUOUS SESSION. OF THE EIGHTEEN ACCUSED,  
THE NINE CHINESE AND THREE BRAZILIANS (EXILED EX-FEDERAL  
DEPUTY ADAO PEREIRA NUNES, AMARILIO VASCONCELOS, AND FORMER  
SECRETARY OF CHINESE-BRAZILIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY RAQUEL COSSOY)  
CFN 1326 1. 6:15 22 16

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WERE SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS IMPRISONMENT WHILE REMAINING SIX  
BRAZILIANS WERE EXONERATED.

2. PROSECUTION EVIDENCE LARGELY RESTED UPON LETTER ADDRESSED  
TO ONE OF THE CHINESE CONTAINING INCRIMINATING INSTRUCTIONS.  
PROSECUTION ALSO ALLEGED THEY HAD DONE NO TRADE MISSION WORK  
DURING THEIR STAY IN BRAZIL. DEFENSE ATTORNEY SOBRAL PINTO  
CALLED THE TRIAL A FARCE AND CHALLENGED THE PROSECUTION TO SHOW  
"WITH PRECISION" WHAT SECRETS WERE OBTAINED BY THE CHINESE.

3. TRIAL WAS ATTENDED BY SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS  
INCLUDING ONE GERMAINE SENECHAL OF THE APPEALS COURT OF PARIS  
AND FUAD TOUM FROM ARGENTINA REPRESENTING INTERNATIONAL LAWYERS  
GROUP.

4. AFTERNOON PRESS REPORTS CONVICTIONS WILL BE APPEALED  
AND GIVES IMPRESSION PRESIDENT CASTELLO BRANCO MAY RESCIND  
SENTENCES AND SUBSTITUTE IMMEDIATE DEPORTATION UNDER PROVISIONS  
OF ARTICLESEE OF NATIONAL SECURITY LAW.

5. MOST RIO NEWSPAPERS GIVING CASE STRAIGHT NEWS TREATMENT,  
EXCEPTIONS BEING LEFTIST ULTIMA HORA AND OPPOSITION CORREIO

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-2-1326, December 22, From Rio-de-Janeiro

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

DA MANHA WHICH PORTRAY TRIAL AS FARCE. CORREIO IN EDITORIAL  
TODAY RIDICULED TRIAL AS "POLITICAL NECESSITY" SAYING  
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PAGE THREE RUESUA 555 UNCLAS  
CONVICTION REQUIRED "TO JUSTIFY INSTITUTIONAL ACT" AND CONCLUDED:  
"EXISTENCE OF GIGANTIC CONSPIRACY, FOMENTED OF FINANCED FROM  
ABROAD, WAS ALLEGED. BUT THAT DANGEROUS CONSPIRACY WAS OVERTHROWN  
IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS'S TIME WITHOUT RESISTENCE, WITHOUT SHOT  
BEING FIRED AND WITHOUT DROP OF BLOOD...SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED  
IN BRAZIL THAT NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE...WE FEEL SHAME AS IF THE  
SHAME WERE OURS; BUT IT IS NOT OURS. WE CANNOT AGREE WITH  
PRESIDENT CASTELLO BRANCO'S WORDS RECENTLY SPOKEN IN THE  
GUANABARA STZTE ASSEMBLY. NO. BRAZILIAN PEOPLE DO NOT DESERVE  
GOVERNMENT LIKE THIS." MEIN  
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